

REMARKS

Claims 22-44 are pending.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation that in the present Office Action, the Examiner withdrew the previous art rejections to the pending claims.

DOUBLE PATENTING

Claims 22-44 are provisionally rejected by the Examiner under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 22-27 of copending Application No. 09/369,978.

With respect to the provisional rejection of claims 22-44 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 22-27 of copending application no. 09/369,978, Applicants submit herewith, a Terminal Disclaimer to overcome this rejection. Accordingly, the submission of the Terminal Disclaimer renders the obviousness-type double patenting rejection moot.

Claims 22-44 are provisionally rejected by the Examiner under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double-patenting as being unpatentable over claims 17, 18, 20 and 21 of copending Application No. 09/369,980.

With respect to the provisional rejection of claims 22-44 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 17, 18, 20 and 21 of copending application no. 09/369,980, Applicants submit therewith a Terminal Disclaimer

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Response to Non-Final Office Action dated November 2, 2004

Response dated February 2, 2005

to overcome this rejection. Accordingly, the submission of the Terminal Disclaimer renders the obviousness-type double patenting rejection moot.

Claims 22-44 are rejected by the Examiner under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-39 of U.S. Patent No. 6,437,064.

With respect to the rejection of claims 22-44 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-39 of U.S. Patent No. 6,437,064. Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer to overcome this rejection. Accordingly, the submission of the Terminal Disclaimer renders the obviousness-type double patenting rejection moot.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims in the application are in allowable form and that the application is now in condition for allowance. If, however, any outstanding issues remain, Applicants urge the Examiner to telephone Applicants' agent so that the same may be resolved and the application expedited to issue. Applicants request the Examiner to indicate all claims as allowable and to pass the application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

Joy Ann G. Serauskas
Registration No. 27,952
McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP
227 West Monroe Street
Chicago, IL 60606-5096
312.372.2000